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valuable to the American zoölogist on account of its detailed summaries of papers and works devoted to zoölogy in all its relations. The different divisions are for sale separately. No biological laboratory, college, or museum library is complete without this work, as well as the briefer English *Zoölogical Record.* It is earnestly to be hoped that, though the German *Jahresbericht* is published at great expense of time and money, it will not be suspended for want of adequate support. American zoölogists will find the work peculiarly valuable.

— At the meeting of the Geological Society of London, held February 15, the society's Lyell medal was awarded to Dr. Joseph Leidy, of Philadelphia, with the sum of 25*l*., in recognition of his valuable services to palæontology, especially his investigations on the fossil Mammalia of Nebraska and the Sauria of the United States. The council also awarded to Professor Leo Lesquereux, F. C. G. S., the sum of 20*l*. from the proceeds of the Barlow-Jameson fund, in recognition of the value of his researches into the palæobotany of North America, and to aid him in further investigations of a similar kind.

— Drs. D. G. Brinton and Benjamin Sharp have been elected to the chairs of Archæology and Ethnology and Invertebrate Zoölogy respectively, in the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

— The University of Pennsylvania is about to establish a school of biological research, and has raised a fund for its endowment.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

Biological Society of Washington, March 8.—Communications: Dr. J. H. Kidder, U. S. N., Exhibition of specimens of bacillus tuberculosis; Dr. D. E. Salmon, Exhibition of specimens of infectious tuberculosis in cattle; Col. Marshall McDonald, The influence of temperature upon the movements of fish in rivers; Mr. Charles W. Smiley, What fish-culture has first to accomplish; Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, U. S. A., Remarks on the patella; Mr. Romyn Hitchcock, Exhibition of specimens of Orbitolites, with notice of Dr. Wm. B. Carpenter's investigations.

Papers read by title: Mr. Robert Ridgway, Descriptions of some new North American birds. Description of a new American Kingfisher. Note on *Psaltriparus grindæ* Belting. Note on the generic name Calodromas. Mr. Leonard Stejneger, Diagnosis of new species of birds from Kamtschatka and the Commander islands. Dr. T. H. Bean and Mr. H. G. Drexel, Diagnosis of three new species of fishes from the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. G. Brown Goode and Dr. T. H. Bean, A new genus of Pediculate fishes.

March 22.—Communications: Col. Marshall MacDonald, Exhibition of charts showing natural and restricted river distribution of the shad (by special request); Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, U. S. A., Remarks on the patella; Mr. Romyn Hitchcock, Exhibition of specimens of Orbitolites, with notice of Dr. Wm. B. Carpenter's investigations; Professor C. V. Riley, Personal reminiscences of the late Dr. George Englemann; Mr. William H. Dall, Exhibition of corals from Alaska, with descriptions of new species; Mr. Richard Rathbun, Exhibition of a peculiar growth of coral from Key West, Florida; Dr. M. G. Ellzey, The prepotency of the male parent; Dr. Leonard Stejneger, Exhibition of specimens of the great Kamtschatkan sea eagle, *Haliætus pelagicus.*

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, March 10.—The following paper was presented: Recent visits to the "Singing Beaches" of Scotland and America, by Professor H. Carrington Bolton.

March 17.—The following papers were read: Notes on a visit to some of the snow-peaks of Oregon, by Professor John S. Newberry; Observations on the geology of the vicinity of Golden, Colorado, by Dr. N. L. Britton.

March 24.—The following paper was read: The topography of Egypt between lat. 28° and 30°, from original surveys made in 1882 and 1883, with especial reference to the erosions (—200 feet of the Reian and Qerûn basins, and the natural eminences (+950) feet) and the pyramids (+ 650) in, at or near the storage-reservoir of Pithom-Moeris (with lantern illustrations), by F. Cope Whitehouse, M.A., etc.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, March 5.—Professor A. Hyatt discussed the origin of the tissues, spermatozoa and eggs among sponges (Metazoa), and the habit of cellular conjugation, from the Protozoa. Dr. M. E. Wadsworth read a paper on the structure of the earth's interior.

March 19.—Mr. S. Garman spoke on the use of polynomials as scientific names; Dr. C. O. Whitman discussed the origin of the vertebrates; and Professor G. L. Goodale read a paper on certain vegetable monstrosities.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, Feb. 13.—Professor W. G. Farlow read an account of some of the diseases and deformities of trees in the White mountains; Mr. C. E. Ridler described a trip to Prince Edward island and Blomidon; and the following papers were read: Mountain adventures by Sig. Alessandro di Placido, including a winter ascent of Fujiyama, Japan, as communicated by him to Samuel Kneeland, M.D.; A winter ascent of Mt. Adams, by Mr. W. H. Pickering.

Feb. 20.—Rev. John Worcester described some of the mountain views of Sinai and Palestine, illustrating his remarks with sixty or more lantern views.

March 12.—Mountain adventures by Sig. Alessandro di Placido, including a winter ascent of Fujiyama, Japan, as communicated by him to Samuel Kneeland, M.D.; a paper by C. H. Ames, entitled, The mountains near Ktaadn iron works, Me., was to be presented; there was also read a paper by Samuel Kneeland, M.D., entitled, A visit to the crater of Vesuvius at night in April, 1882.

PHILADELPHIA ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, Dec. 20.—Dr. A. J. Parker called attention to a previously unnoticed mode of reproduction in *Amphileptas fasciola.* One end broke up into amœboid particles, while the remainder, with its cilia, was active. The creature afterwards resumed its original form. The Rev. Dr. McCook spoke of the occurrence of *Formica rufa* in Dakota. In the center of the mounds was a mass of small twigs, forming a ball some eight inches in diameter, and galleries run downward from this for four or more feet. As the material of the nests is largely composed of vegetable fragments, prairie fires burn them out, forming large cavities.

January 10, 1884.—A paper by Miss Foulke, describing the reproduction of *Clathrulina elegans,* was read. Professor Lewis exhibited a mass of cast-iron which contained crystals of graphite, which again held particles of cast iron. The mass contained also pieces of unaltered anthracite. The presence of such pieces of coal, unconsumed through lack of oxygen, was considered to illustrate the way in which carbon may exist in meteorites or chalcopyrite in trap. Dr. Sharp stated that he had determined the presence of so-called retinal cells in the mantle of many lamellibranchiata, including Mya and Ostrea. The structure was the same as that of the primitive eyes of *Solen ensis* previously described. The relation between these eyes and those of Medusæ could scarcely be traced. At the previous meeting, Dr. Leidy called attention to specimens of tin ore from the Black Hills, and stated that he had been informed that a large quantity of such ore existed.

Jan. 16.—Dr. Leidy, in the course of remarks upon the life-forms thrown up at Atlantic City by recent storms, noted the presence of the holothurian *Caudina arenata.* This was probably the first recorded occurrence of this species on the New Jersey coast. Examples six inches long were found. Professor Heilprin, speaking of the Tertiary formations of the Atlantic coast, stated that the Vicksburg beds were, as determined by Conrad, probably of the same age as the Mayence basin, as *Orbitolites mantellii* was characteristic of both and of Oligocene beds generally. The strata immediately beneath the Vicksburg rest on strata which are the equivalent of the *Calcaire grossier* of France, and contains Zeuglodon remains. In the Grand Gulf beds of the far south of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, no determinable invertebrate fossils had been seen. The Jackson beds probably extend farther up in Mississippi than had been supposed by Hilgard. Remarks upon the abundance of chaplets of eggs of Fulgur during the winter led Dr. Leidy to state his belief that they are laid in winter and cast up by the spring storms.